

REMARKS

The claims have been revised above to change the dependency of certain of the claims and to avoid a potential 35 USC §112, second paragraph, rejection of claim 14.

Applicant also takes this opportunity to reaffirm that priority is claimed in this application based on applicant's prior Japanese Application No. 2002-300828, filed October 15, 2002 and Japanese Application No. 2003-315831, filed September 8, 2003. A certified copy of each of the priority documents identified above is submitted herewith. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner acknowledge receipt of the herewith priority documents in the next Official Communication.

An early Action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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